20031028.qrp v03_n087.qrl.20031028

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 19:03:10 EST
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 3087

QRP-L Digest 3087

Topics covered in this issue include:

  1) [160178] Re: kb8qpt - update.. again!
     by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
  2) [160179] MQFD PACNW
     by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
  3) [160180] Re: Need car battery advice
     by "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
  4) [160181] KITS: Frankenkeyer
     by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
  5) [160182] Re: SmallParts&Kits Frequency Standard
     by "Rich Johnson" <rjohnson390@comcast.net>
  6) [160183] Re: Need car battery advice
     by kc5gxl@ih2000.net
  7) [160184] Re: Need car battery advice
     by "Timothy-Allen Albertson-KG6IRH" <kg6irh@pacbell.net>
  8) [160185] Mountain OPs TacPack for K1
     by Michael Babineau <michael.babineau@sympatico.ca>
  9) [160186] Re: Need car battery advice
     by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
 10) [160187] Re: Need car battery advice
     by KD5NWA <KD5NWA@CBayona.com>
 11) [160188] FOX 28 Oct don't forget!
     by "Merton Nellis" <mertnellis@msn.com>
 12) [160189] CQC Places 8th in Field Day
     by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
 13) [160190] Re: Need car battery advice
     by Peter Burbank <peterlee@qx.net>
 14) [160191] Hallicrafters S38C
     by "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
 15) [160192] Michigan QRP Net
     by kwike@gdls.com
 16) [160193] Re: Need car battery advice
     by "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
 17) [160194] anyone tried the manual screwdriver mobile antenna?
     by "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
 18) [160195] RE: Morse Code on TV
     by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
 19) [160196] Re: Need car battery advice

    by <ah7i@atl.org>
20) [160197] Mega Flare
    by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
21) [160198] X14 superflare
    by "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
22) [160199] Re: Need car battery advice
    by Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
23) [160200] FW: Flying Pig Fox Hunt Team: Team Air Pork
    by "rattray" <rattray@accesscomm.ca>
24) [160201] RE: Mega Flare
    by "rattray" <rattray@accesscomm.ca>
25) [160202] RE: Morse Code on TV
    by Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
26) [160203] Re: Mega Flare
    by Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
27) [160204] EA-QRP SSB Contest 2003 (1st Edition)
    by "=?iso-8859-1?q?Miguel=20Angel=20D.J.?=" <ea1bp@yahoo.es>
28) [160205] FOX season begins tonite!
    by "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
29) [160206] 15 Meters Open
    by Ron Evans <cosmos41@ix.netcom.com>
30) [160207] Re: Mega Flare
    by Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
31) [160208] QRP-L Fox: Need Help!
    by "Ronnie Zoerb" <r.zoerb@worldnet.att.net>
32) [160209] Soldering Coax fittings question
    by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
33) [160210] RE: Mega Flare
    by "Boulineau, Lee" <lee.boulineau@attws.com>
34) [160211] Re: Mega Flare
    by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
35) [160212] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
    by "Tim, N9PUZ" <n9puz@arrl.net>
36) [160213] Re: Mega Flare
    by "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
37) [160214] Re: Mega Flare
    by John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
38) [160215] Re: Mega Flare
    by Garie Halstead K8KFJ <khyberpass65@yahoo.com>
39) [160216] RE: Soldering Coax fittings question
    by Adam Farson <farson@shaw.ca>
40) [160217] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
    by "Mike WA8BXN" <hubby2k@hotmail.com>
41) [160218] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
    by Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
42) [160219] Re: Mega Flare Mojo
    by Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
43) [160220] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question

    by "Larry Roohr" <larry.roohr@comcast.net>
 44) [160221] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
    by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
 45) [160222] Re: X14 superflare
    by "Damon S Raphael MD \(W7MD\)" <w7md@gci-net.com>
 46) [160223] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
    by Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
 47) [160224] Some swapzies, 30m A&A QRP transceiver and Atlas 210
    by <ah7i@atl.org>
 48) [160225] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
    by Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
 49) [160226] **SOLD** LDG Z-11 Autotuner **SOLD**
    by "NZ8J" <nz8j@woh.rr.com>
 50) [160227] Solar Flare
    by "Lee Hopper" <leehopp@msn.com>
 51) [160228] X17 Flare: Info & tutorial
    by Paul Harden <pharden@revere.aoc.nrao.edu>
 52) [160229] QRP does it again!
    by "rattray" <rattray@accesscomm.ca>
 53) [160230] FYI Re the 14.025 Signal
    by Garey Barrell <k4oah@mindspring.com>
 54) [160231] Coax Fittings
    by Peter Burbank <peterlee@qx.net>

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 17:43:49 -0800
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: <sergio@philway.com>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160178] Re: kb8qpt - update.. again!
Message-ID: <004001c39cf4$ef14fff0$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Glad you're moving up in the world. It'll be great to have room for
antennas.

The G5RV will work no better and no worse than any of the other popular (or
random) non-resonant dipoles used for all bands. The kicker is that you
need an antenna tuner. If you get lucky, you might not need one on a single
band, maybe 20 meters, but don't bet on it.

But they're popular for good reason. I'm using a 180 foot center fed wire
with a Matchbox myself. The 88 footer is probably popular for good reasons.

72--Nick, WA5BDU]

----- Original Message -----
From: "Sergio T. Ruiz" <sergio@philway.com>

>
> wow..
>
> life is totally changed on me once again..
>
> i have a huge yard, a tall house.. and some trees.. so, i want to put up a
> proper antenna, first thing.. my question is.. can i put up a g5rv and use
> all bands?

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 19:02:33 EST
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160179] MQFD PACNW
Message-ID: <19d.1c314da4.2ccf0c19@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, the bands were less than stellar but our first MQFD proved insightful and fun. Partaking in this event were Dave K2ZU, Paul NG7Z, Bob W8MCJ and Larry W8GTT. (Notice I was the only 7---tried to fake out the west coasters--smile) It was a bit nippy at first but otherwise a gorgeous day. The Daniel Creek
Park (Mary Cash Farm) provided a quiet location and relatively inactive people wise.

RADIOS: There were two K1s and a SW40+.

ANTENNAS:
---40m endfed halfwave utilizing a Heavy duty TELEPOLE

---MP-1,

---FORCE 12 (Sigma 40)

---33ft by 33ft Inverted-L

COMMENTS: First it is clear if we are going to operate multistation some band filters will be required. There was interference between the stations even when not on the same band. Each antenna was impressive in their own right

considering the bands. Dave's telescoping Heavy Duty fiberglass pole truly is rigid
and had little bend or sway to it as an end support for his endfed 40m wire antenna fed against a counterpoise. Paul's Force 12 Sigma was an impressive piece of engineering and heard very well. Bob's MP-1 was mounted on a tripod used for those dual worklights and really performed well also. My Inverted-L lived up to its calculations and was able to be matched easily on all bands.

Available on sight also were the following: SD-20 pole, DK9SQ mast, BLACK WIDOW pole and the 14ft Cabela pole that collapses to 15 inches. Two of the power sources were the small battery power stations (Sears and Ham Station)....neat power packs

What was equally impressive was the use of portable carrying cases such as suit cases, brief case, and soft pack. Also Paul used a golf club bag for storing his Force 12. All were very inventive and provided a neat storage and transportation pack.

In my opinion it was a great time for camaraderie and learning. I think some valuable lessons were learned and will be put to practice next month. This is a great way to be able to test out battery packs, compare receivers, try new antennas, and BS about radio stuff. For a few hours I forgot all about my honey-do list (grin)

Hope to work more of you next month.

Alan KB7MBI in Woodinville, WA
FISTS 5702 / ARS / Proud member of ARRL
___ ___ . . . . . . ___ ___ DIT DIT

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 18:24:52 -0800
From: "Nick Kennedy" <nkennedy@tcainternet.com>
To: <psykey@okcforum.org>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160180] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <004501c39cfa$ac66c840$0400000a@wa5bdu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

For charging, I'd float it continuously at 13.8 volts. If you don't want to do that, at least put it on float fairly often and don't ever let it stay in a significantly discharged state for very long.

How many V-A you can get out might be hard to say and best determined

experimentally. From fully charged, try drawing your projected load until voltage drops to 10.5 or maybe 11 volts. I'd consider 10.5 the limit for fully discharged. These things are typically rated for how much of a very short term, high current surge they can deliver, as opposed to volt-amps over a longer period.

Sounds crazy, but lead acid cells like it best when they never have to go into a discharge mode. (We should all have such a job, eh? I do my best work when not called upon to work.) At my power plant, the batteries go into a discharge mode once every 18 months, for a capacity test. That doesn't mean they can't handle some discharge cycles though. Wouldn't be worth much if that were the case.

Ideally, for ham service you'd want a deep discharge design, meaning one with fewer but thicker plates. However, no reason not to feel that you've grabbed a prize. I would in your case. Hook it up and put it to work!

72--Nick, WA5BDU

----- Original Message -----
From: "Jim Glover" <psykey@okcforum.org>

 I thought $6 was
> a nice price for a clean new battery, so I grabbed it.
>
> Other than that, how much can I get away with using it? How many
> amp-hours can I suck out of it at a time without worrying about
> damaging it? What would be the best charging regimen?

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 20:44:57 -0500
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160181] KITS: Frankenkeyer
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20031027204457.0079b100@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Seeing Holloween is a few days away, it seems approperate to finally announce I'm now accepting pre-paid orders for the "Frankenkeyer".

The "Frankenkeyer is of course, a keyer, with some monster features:

REAL TIME CLOCK with Morse output. (minutes only/hrs-mins/date)
Programmable ALARM with relay drive output

Morse output FREQUENCY COUNTER with programmable IF offsets
Morse output VOLTMETER (up to 25.5 volts)
Morse output POWER METER (up to 6.0 watts, requires diode detector on antenna jack)
Variable pitch side tone in tune mode (requires reverse power input from your SWR bridge)
Four (4) 100 character message memories, with message pause, stop and repeat control from paddle.

Price, $25.00 postpaid US and Canada. $27.00 DX. Shipping end of Nov.
Full details at <http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Special deal! Order one or more Rock Mite audio filter board kits at the same time for $10.00 each.
72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 17:53:11 -0800
From: "Rich Johnson" <rjohnson390@comcast.net>
To: <jfarnsworth@direcway.com>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160182] Re: SmallParts&Kits Frequency Standard
Message-ID: <001501c39cf6$3e902db0$f877d30c@END0EB86CD98A1>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Almost All Digital Electronics is the source.

----- Original Message -----
From: "John Farnsworth" <jfarnsworth@direcway.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2003 7:19 AM
Subject: SmallParts&Kits Frequency Standard

> Anybody know where to find data on the 20MHz TXCO used in this? Mine works
> great, but curious minds want to know . . .
>
>
>

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 20:55:35 -0600
From: kc5gxl@ih2000.net
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160183] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <20031028025535.6701.qmail@mail.eonet.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Howdy all;

Let me join in on this subject.

Someone wants to use a car battery as his power source. Not a big deal. Easy enough to charge, either with a trickle charger or swap it out with the battery from the family car. Still not a bit deal.

Here's the BIG deal. Lead/acid batteries give off hydrogen gas. If you keep the battery outside, that is OK. But whatever you do, especially if you smoke or even happen to have a spark while connecting the battery or turning on or off a rig, etc., then you may have a BIG problem!

Always have adequate ventilation when working with car batteries. They are hazardous to your health, in more ways than one.

You might want to rethink your idea before you install a battery in your house/shack.
Just a thought.

73

Dan Harriman
Orange, Texas

PS. Remember the Hindenburg!

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 18:47:31 -0800
From: "Timothy-Allen Albertson-KG6IRH" <kg6irh@pacbell.net>
To: <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160184] Re: Need car battery advice

Message-ID: <022101c39cfd$d9382460$3b9baa40@computer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

There are devices, available from marine supply houses, which will replace
the cell caps on a battery with caps which have a vent tube which can be
directed outside of an enclosure. 73 de tim kg6irh
----- Original Message -----
From: <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2003 6:55 PM
Subject: Re: Need car battery advice

> Howdy all;
>
> Let me join in on this subject.
>
> Someone wants to use a car battery as his power source. Not a big deal.
> Easy enough to charge, either with a trickle charger or swap it out with
the
> battery from the family car. Still not a bit deal.
>
> Here's the BIG deal. Lead/acid batteries give off hydrogen gas. If you
> keep the battery outside, that is OK. But whatever you do, especially if
you
> smoke or even happen to have a spark while connecting the battery or
turning
> on or off a rig, etc., then you may have a BIG problem!
>
> Always have adequate ventilation when working with car batteries. They are
> hazardous to your health, in more ways than one.
>
> You might want to rethink your idea before you install a battery in your
> house/shack.
> Just a thought.
>
> 73
>
> Dan Harriman
> Orange, Texas
>
> PS. Remember the Hindenburg!

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 21:57:55 -0500
From: Michael Babineau <michael.babineau@sympatico.ca>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160185] Mountain OPs TacPack for K1
Message-ID: <875978DC-08F2-11D8-8308-00039309268A@sympatico.ca>
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v552)
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I seem to recall having read something on QRP-L a while back about Mountain OPS no longer being in business and it seems that their web site is no longer functional.

Does anyone still make the TacPack for the K1 or something like it?

Michael VE3WMB

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 21:15:05 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160186] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <020c01c39d01$b0c25600$0401a8c0@PS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

One other problem - although Dan's point is serious enough.

A car battery is made to deliver hundreds of amps for a few seconds and then spend the next hour being recharged.

The deep-discharge battery that you want to use to power equipment is made to deliver a modest current for a long time and then be recharged in a reasonable time. It will handle hundreds if not thousands of charge/recharge cycles.

The car battery under much continuous load will lose capacity fairly rapidly and need replacement. The deep-discharge battery if cared for properly will last for years.

Moral: car batteries are not the best choice for your application.

I use a 110 AH RV battery as a backup in the manner of a UPS and it just doesn't wear out. BUT, I mounted it outside the shack where there is no danger of fumes, etc.

73/72, George
Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
"Starting the 58th year and it just keeps getting better!"
w5yr@att.net

----- Original Message -----
From: <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2003 8:55 PM
Subject: Re: Need car battery advice

> Howdy all;
>
> Let me join in on this subject.
>
> Someone wants to use a car battery as his power source. Not a big deal.
> Easy enough to charge, either with a trickle charger or swap it out with the
> battery from the family car. Still not a bit deal.
>
> Here's the BIG deal. Lead/acid batteries give off hydrogen gas. If you
> keep the battery outside, that is OK. But whatever you do, especially if you
> smoke or even happen to have a spark while connecting the battery or turning
> on or off a rig, etc., then you may have a BIG problem!
>
> Always have adequate ventilation when working with car batteries. They are
> hazardous to your health, in more ways than one.
>
> You might want to rethink your idea before you install a battery in your
> house/shack.
> Just a thought.
>
> 73
>
> Dan Harriman
> Orange, Texas

>
> PS. Remember the Hindenburg!
>

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 21:53:49 -0600
From: KD5NWA <KD5NWA@CBayona.com>
To: kc5gxl@ih2000.net
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160187] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <56BDF984-08FA-11D8-AF3F-000502CEA711@CBayona.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII; format=flowed
Mime-Version: 1.0 (Apple Message framework v552)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

A friend of mine was using a car battery for power, he was a little
careless and removed the power lead while some of his equipment was on
and it sparked, the battery exploded (hydrogen gas) and he had acid all
over his radio's.

Several radios were ruined, in spite of him cleaning them, they started
corroding all over.

On Monday, October 27, 2003, at 08:55 PM, kc5gxl@ih2000.net wrote:

> Howdy all;
> Let me join in on this subject.
> Someone wants to use a car battery as his power source. Not a big deal.
> Easy enough to charge, either with a trickle charger or swap it out
> with the battery from the family car. Still not a bit deal.
> Here's the BIG deal. Lead/acid batteries give off hydrogen gas. If
> you keep the battery outside, that is OK. But whatever you do,
> especially if you smoke or even happen to have a spark while
> connecting the battery or turning on or off a rig, etc., then you may
> have a BIG problem!
> Always have adequate ventilation when working with car batteries. They
> are hazardous to your health, in more ways than one.
> You might want to rethink your idea before you install a battery in
> your house/shack.
> Just a thought.
> 73
> Dan Harriman
> Orange, Texas
> PS. Remember the Hindenburg!
>

Cecil
KD5NWA

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 22:26:54 -0600
From: "Merton Nellis" <mertnellis@msn.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160188] FOX 28 Oct don't forget!
Message-ID: <BAY3-F28NtjudYzWgmx000341ca@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Hey Hounds
The Hunt is on 28 Oct. Come get a Pelt. 7.040 Mhz +/-. Rules at
www.cqc.org/fox/rules.htm
BCNU there, 72   Mert W0UFO   FOX

w0ufo@arrl.net

_____
Concerned that messages may bounce because your Hotmail account has exceeded
its 2MB storage limit? Get Hotmail Extra Storage!
http://join.msn.com/?PAGE=features/es

Date: Mon, 27 Oct 2003 22:50:38 -0700
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: qRP-L@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160189] CQC Places 8th in Field Day
Message-ID: <3F9DA13E.2927.2D00513@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=ISO-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: Quoted-printable
Content-description: Mail message body

This just in from AB0CD--
=3D=3D=3DFLASH=3D=3D=3D
Colorado QRP Club bests all QRP teams in ARRL Field Day 2003

CQC Finishes 8th Overall

RAMPART RANGE, Colorado =AD The Colorado QRP Club, true to form, was the t=

op
QRP finisher during this year=B9s ARRL Field Day operations, with 12,750 points.

CQC won the 2A-Battery class. There were 29 teams participating in this class.

The point score placed CQC in 8ths place nationally, out of 2,058 teams submitting logs. Only QRO operations placed ahead of the club.

The seven teams placing ahead of CQC had from 14 to 73 operators. CQC did it with six.

Unfortunately, Field Day IS NOT at contest.
But way to go CQC!
-30-

Comments DE N1FN--

I didn't participate in CQC's FD operation this year so can't share in the=

glory, but congratulate the guys on a job well done. CQC holds the all ti=
me
record in both the 2A and 3A classes, and the results are a dramatic
illustration of what you can do with QRP power, even under "field conditio=
ns."
OK, CW contacts count double, and there's a bonus for low power, but still=
--
8th overall is not too shabby. Dick notes that we placed above all other =
QRP
stations, but I think it is more significant that only 7 QRO stations did
better!

73
Marshall Emm
N1FN/VK5FN
n1fn@MorseX.com
Morse Express and Oak Hills Research
"Everything for the Morse Enthusiast"
http://www.MorseX.com

http://www.ohr.com
(303)752-3382
--

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 01:11:08 -0500
From: Peter Burbank <peterlee@qx.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160190] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <5.2.0.9.0.20031028002854.00a1a2f0@mail.qx.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Interesting experiment follows but wear eye protection.
You can fill a new flat folded garbage bag with H2 and take it to a safe place for ignition.
The orange fireball is pretty awesome.Car batteries are really pretty dangerous.
Try cranking a car by hand and you get some idea of the amount of power available in
a battery. An ET friend told me about blowing stumps out of the ground by shorting
a battery and tossing it in the hole but so far I have not been nuts enough to try that .
Don't try any of this stuff at home and if you use battery power, pay careful attention to the
wiring/fuses and layout. These things are like dynamite.
How do I know this? Try laying on an 8 foot high submarine cell to check the specific gravity.
And reflect on your past life.
Be Careful Gangue!
73
Pete NV4V

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 03:47:13 -0700
From: "Francis Callahan" <colcal@srv.net>
To: <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160191] Hallicrafters S38C
Message-ID: <001e01c39d40$d9938f60$29ce1341@callahan>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The radio is sold and thanks to all who inquired 72 Cal KF7ET

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 07:48:55 -0500
From: kwike@gdls.com
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160192] Michigan QRP Net
Message-ID: <OFB2758A07.12E293E9-ON85256DCD.00465748@gdls.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

We had seven check-ins last week. There was some QRN but conditions were good despite a high K index.

	S	R		
AA1MY	559	599	BETHEL ME	SEAB
WA8BXN	599	599	CLEVELAND OH	MIKE
W2SH	579	569	MILLINGTON NJ	CHARLES
K8NWD	599	599	WATERFORD MI	TIM
KA8ONW	559		MASON MI	MARK
K8CV	599	579	ROYAL OAK MI	WALT
WA8REI/?	119			KEN

The Michigan QRP Net meets each Tuesday night at 9:00 PM Eastern time on 3.535 Mhz. With the time change last week it should be full dark by 9:00 PM for all of the right half of the U.S.

Ed AB8DF Waterford, MI

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 07:53:29 -0500
From: "John J. McDonough" <wb8rcr@arrl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160193] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <002f01c39d52$7ca58fd0$080044c0@BrianBoru>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----
From: <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>
Subject: Re: Need car battery advice

> Always have adequate ventilation when working with car batteries. They are
> hazardous to your health, in more ways than one.

I feel compelled to add something here.

Car batteries don't give off huge amounts of hydrogen, so it doesn't take a gale. Even a little ventilation can be adequate to keep the hydrogen concentration down below the explosive limit. But you do need SOMETHING to make the air move.

HOWEVER - hydrogen is amazingly easy to ignite. It takes almost no energy to do it. Spark sources that aren't energetic enough to ignite gasoline will easily ignite hydrogen. So yes, the brushes in that CPU fan are more than adequate.

Don't get suckered into thinking that you are going to get around the problem by eliminating ignition sources.   For hydrogen that is virtually impossible. ANYTHING, even anything not energized, that is made of iron, steel, or something equally hard is an adequate ignition source to cause hydrogen to explode should they contact. Places that deal with hydrogen routinely don't allow normal tools - everything has to be brass which is too soft to spark. Anything nonconductive is a potential static source. Be sure you have adequate ventilation.

72/73 de WB8RCR   http://www.qsl.net/wb8rcr
didileydadidah   QRP-L #1446 Code Warriors #35

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 08:06:09 -0500
From: "Armin Hachmer" <armin@muskoka.com>
To: "Antenna Reflector" <antennas@qth.net>,
        "QRP-Canada" <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>,
Subject: [160194] anyone tried the manual screwdriver mobile antenna?
Message-ID: <000701c39d54$454d1880$436c7bd8@muskoka.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

would like to build one or buy the MFJ or Superantennas.com version. Prefer building my own.
April 2000 QST had a design by KM4IE but i lost page 3.. I think i can cobble it all together from the info i have. Wonder if i can use aluminum

tubing and isolating fiberglass sections where the coil goes? It is sitting in the corner of the shack, shiny and new.

Heck, if anyone has plans for the Texas bug catcher, i would build that. I know it works well and i already had my flu-shot against seasonal invasion by bugs, mostly transmitted by hugs and kisses from grandchildren.

Your comments would be appreciated.

72.599 (+/-)
Armin ve3teq

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 08:08:59 -0500
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: <Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160195] RE: Morse Code on TV
Message-ID: <20031028130858.XLKR1780.imf20aec.mail.bellsouth.net@[192.168.0.100]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 10/3/03 11:41 PM, Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM at
Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM wrote:

>Then there's most Nokia cell phones.... one of the "rings" is a message in
>Morse code.

CONNECTING PEOPLE

(I was recently at a funeral, and someone forgot to turn off their cell phone. I distinctly heard this ring....)

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL   Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
            -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 07:55:01 -0500 (EST)
From: <ah7i@atl.org>
To: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [160196] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0310280749400.11569-100000@localhost.localdomain>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

The 'quality' car batteries have more plates. So, if luck
delivered a battery with 13 or 15 plates/cell, it's gonna
work well when cycled. I used to use these to power wireless
telemetry equipment charged from solar cells. Thay'd last for
years out in the field.

The 'cheap' auto batteries have 7 - 9 plates per cell.

-Bob

On Mon, 27 Oct 2003, George, W5YR wrote:

> One other problem - although Dan's point is serious enough.
>
> A car battery is made to deliver hundreds of amps for a few seconds and then
> spend the next hour being recharged.
>
> The deep-discharge battery that you want to use to power equipment is made
> to deliver a modest current for a long time and then be recharged in a
> reasonable time. It will handle hundreds if not thousands of charge/recharge
> cycles.
>
> The car battery under much continuous load will lose capacity fairly rapidly
> and need replacement. The deep-discharge battery if cared for properly will
> last for years.
>
> Moral: car batteries are not the best choice for your application.
>
> I use a 110 AH RV battery as a backup in the manner of a UPS and it just
> doesn't wear out. BUT, I mounted it outside the shack where there is no
> danger of fumes, etc.
>
> 73/72, George
> Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
> Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
> "Starting the 58th year and it just keeps getting better!"
> w5yr@att.net
>
>
>

>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>
> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Sent: Monday, October 27, 2003 8:55 PM
> Subject: Re: Need car battery advice
>
>
> > Howdy all;
> >
> > Let me join in on this subject.
> >
> > Someone wants to use a car battery as his power source. Not a big deal.
> > Easy enough to charge, either with a trickle charger or swap it out with
> the
> > battery from the family car. Still not a bit deal.
> >
> > Here's the BIG deal. Lead/acid batteries give off hydrogen gas. If you
> > keep the battery outside, that is OK. But whatever you do, especially if
> you
> > smoke or even happen to have a spark while connecting the battery or
> turning
> > on or off a rig, etc., then you may have a BIG problem!
> >
> > Always have adequate ventilation when working with car batteries. They are
> > hazardous to your health, in more ways than one.
> >
> > You might want to rethink your idea before you install a battery in your
> > house/shack.
> > Just a thought.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > Dan Harriman
> > Orange, Texas
> >
> > PS. Remember the Hindenburg!
> >
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 08:32:23 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160197] Mega Flare

Message-ID: <200310280832.23147.jsielke@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

I see there was a Solar Flare this morning that went right off the scale (over X20). They are calling it a Megaflare on the Space Weather site.

I know Paul is probably busy, but if he has time, maybe he could tell us how this could affect us, not just Ham Radio-wise? I have never noted one this big.

In the meantime, adding an extra layer to my aluminum foil hat.

John W2AGN

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 07:55:39 -0600
From: "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: "Qrp-l Reflector" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160198] X14 superflare
Message-ID: <08a801c39d5b$2da70090$78d1fea9@DaveSjolin>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

SEVERE SOLAR ACTIVITY: One of the most powerful solar flares in years, a remarkable X14-category explosion, erupted from sunspot 486 this morning at approximately 1110 UT. An intensifying S2-class solar radiation storm is in progress. The explosion almost certainly hurled a coronal mass ejection toward Earth, which could trigger bright auroras when it arrives on Oct 29th or 30th. Stay tuned for details.

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:21:04 -0500
From: Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: qrpl <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160199] Re: Need car battery advice
Message-ID: <027701c39d5e$bbb4a290$3b6d020a@boomer>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

To emphasize that proper charge-discharge discipline can make a good deep cycle battery last for a long time, I have Trojan T-105 6V golf cart batteries series parallel to make a 12 volt 1000 amp hour bank at my house on an off-the-grid island. We have just finished our tenth season on the original set of batteries. This past year I've noticed that they seem to discharge a bit faster than before, and I will probably replace them in the next year or so. Even so, at $60 a piece, they sure don't owe me anything!

Don't discharge lower than 50% capacity, and do not leave discharged batteries without recharging as soon as possible.

73 de Lee
KM4YY/8

----- Original Message -----
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2003 10:15 PM
Subject: Re: Need car battery advice

> One other problem - although Dan's point is serious enough.
>
> A car battery is made to deliver hundreds of amps for a few seconds and
then
> spend the next hour being recharged.
>
> The deep-discharge battery that you want to use to power equipment is made
> to deliver a modest current for a long time and then be recharged in a
> reasonable time. It will handle hundreds if not thousands of
charge/recharge
> cycles.
>
> The car battery under much continuous load will lose capacity fairly
rapidly
> and need replacement. The deep-discharge battery if cared for properly
will
> last for years.
>
> Moral: car batteries are not the best choice for your application.
>
> I use a 110 AH RV battery as a backup in the manner of a UPS and it just
> doesn't wear out. BUT, I mounted it outside the shack where there is no
> danger of fumes, etc.
>
> 73/72, George

> Amateur Radio W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas
> Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13QE
> "Starting the 58th year and it just keeps getting better!"
> w5yr@att.net
>
>
>
>
>
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: <kc5gxl@ih2000.net>
> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
> Sent: Monday, October 27, 2003 8:55 PM
> Subject: Re: Need car battery advice
>
>
> > Howdy all;
> >
> > Let me join in on this subject.
> >
> > Someone wants to use a car battery as his power source. Not a big deal.
> > Easy enough to charge, either with a trickle charger or swap it out with
> the
> > battery from the family car. Still not a bit deal.
> >
> > Here's the BIG deal. Lead/acid batteries give off hydrogen gas. If you
> > keep the battery outside, that is OK. But whatever you do, especially if
> you
> > smoke or even happen to have a spark while connecting the battery or
> turning
> > on or off a rig, etc., then you may have a BIG problem!
> >
> > Always have adequate ventilation when working with car batteries. They
are
> > hazardous to your health, in more ways than one.
> >
> > You might want to rethink your idea before you install a battery in your
> > house/shack.
> > Just a thought.
> >
> > 73
> >
> > Dan Harriman
> > Orange, Texas
> >
> > PS. Remember the Hindenburg!
> >
>

>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 08:49:33 -0600
From: "rattray" <rattray@accesscomm.ca>
To: "QRP-C" <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>, "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160200] FW: Flying Pig Fox Hunt Team: Team Air Pork
Message-ID: <002501c39d62$b66ba690$7900a8c0@Bonnie>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'd like to introduce the fourth Team to step up to the starting line......drrrrruuuuummmmmrrrooollllllll..."TEAM AIR PORK!!"...as they say too much on TV, OH..MY..GOD!.....please pick me up off the floor!...looks like the mighty Texans are going to have competition this time around eh!?...hihi...ok, ok, here's a little tip to the NE-TX Tornados Team...you might want to connect antennas to your rigs for this hunt eh!?...hihihi...
 - 72 Bruce ve5rc/ve5qrp
...anymore Teams please?...you have until the start of the SECOND hunt to enter!

-----Original Message-----
From: Wayne K9DI [mailto:k9di@k9di.org]
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 12:05 AM
To: Bruce & Bonnie Rattray
Subject: Flying Pig Fox Hunt Team: Team Air Pork

         Hi Bruce,
     Wayne K9DI es LD Patriot here. Following is the Team Air Pork roster
Wayne K9DI
Mike KD5KXF
Dave AG4PJ
Randy W9HL
Jerry N0JRN

73
de
Wayne K9DI
--
            Sincerely and Respectfully Yours

Wayne M. Scace K9DI | "QRP: Where the FUN is!!"
www.k9di.org | "Linux and Ham Radio an excellent Team!"
LICQ #315313 | "Have you thanked your Elmer(s) lately?"
k9di@NOSPAMk9di.org | "Share the FUN, be an elmer!!"
Proud Flying Pig #217 | "Morse Code: you just might like it!!"

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 08:53:26 -0600
From: "rattray" <rattray@accesscomm.ca>
To: <jsielke@pobox.com>
Cc: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160201] RE: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <002701c39d63$414f1210$7900a8c0@Bonnie>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of John Sielke
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 7:32 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Mega Flare

I see there was a Solar Flare this morning that went right off the scale (over
X20). They are calling it a Megaflare on the Space Weather site.

I know Paul is probably busy, but if he has time, maybe he could tell us how
this could affect us, not just Ham Radio-wise? I have never noted one this
big.

In the meantime, adding an extra layer to my aluminum foil hat.

John W2AGN
...good idea John...what say Paul?...72 - Bruce ve5rc/ve5qrp

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:07:52 -0600 (CST)
From: Dale Botkin <dale@botkin.org>
To: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160202] RE: Morse Code on TV
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0310280906580.12851-100000@madmax.botkin.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 28 Oct 2003, Bill Coleman wrote:

> On 10/3/03 11:41 PM, Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM at
> Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM wrote:
>
> >Then there's most Nokia cell phones.... one of the "rings" is a message in
> >Morse code.
>
> CONNECTING PEOPLE
>
> (I was recently at a funeral, and someone forgot to turn off their cell
> phone. I distinctly heard this ring....)

Perhaps there should be another selection that plays "Inconsiderate twit"
at 20WPM. Or just "LID".

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 10:17:06 -0500
From: Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com>
To: jsielke@pobox.com,
        Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160203] Re: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <031b01c39d66$92b64670$3b6d020a@boomer>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Having graduated from the University of New Mexico (somewhat close to Paul's
stomping grounds) in the past century, let me hasten to tell everybody the
thing to do now given the Mega Flare detritus is heading our way.

The first thing is take off the aluminum tops of all your qrp rigs and line them up out side in a North-South configuration. When the coronal energy arrives on the 29th or 30th, it will restore the mojo that has been gradually leaking out of our homebrew radios.

John may wish to remove the tin foil from his hat on arrival day in order to restore some of the mojo that has been leaking out of his brain!

73 de Lee
KM4YY/8

BTW, you cannot restore mojo to QRO rigs in this manner. QRO rigs require submersion in green pond water for three days...

----- Original Message -----
From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 8:32 AM
Subject: Mega Flare

> I see there was a Solar Flare this morning that went right off the scale (over
> X20). They are calling it a Megaflare on the Space Weather site.
>
> I know Paul is probably busy, but if he has time, maybe he could tell us how
> this could affect us, not just Ham Radio-wise? I have never noted one this
> big.
>
> In the meantime, adding an extra layer to my aluminum foil hat.
>
> John W2AGN
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 16:42:14 +0100 (CET)
From: "=?iso-8859-1?q?Miguel=20Angel=20D.J.?=" <ea1bp@yahoo.es>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160204] EA-QRP SSB Contest 2003 (1st Edition)
Message-ID: <20031028154214.1225.qmail@web20007.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

EA-QRP Club Contest 2003 (1st Edition)

The EA-QRP Club invite Radioamateurs all over the
world to take part in this Contest to increase SSB
contacts between QRP stations.

Date:
     8 - 9 th November 2003

Periods/Parts:

     8th November
          1st part   17:00 to 20:00 UTC in 20 meters
          2nd part   20:00 to 23:00 UTC in 80 meters

     9th November
          3th part   07:00 to 10:00 UTC in 15 meters
          4th part   10:00 to 13:00 UTC in 10 meters

Frecuencies:

      20 meters : From 14.275 Mhz to 14.295 Mhz
      80 meters : From 3.670 Mhz to 3.695 Mhz
      15 meters : From 21.150 Mhz to 21.180 Mhz
      10 meters : From 28.900 Mhz to 28.930 Mhz

Exchange:

      59 + Spanish province (Spanish stations)
      59 (Outside Spain)

Power:

      Maximum output power 10 watts

Categories:
      Single operator only.
      QRP - Maximum output power 10 watts
      QRPp - Maximum output power 1 watt

Score:

Every station may be contacted once per band.
     QRP station : 1 point
     QRPp Station : 2 points

Multipliers:

Each contacted spanish province and DXCC country will give one multiplier on each band. Your own will also count.
EA/EA6/EA8/EA9 will be only one multiplier (EA-Spain).

Total score:

The final score is the sum of QSO points from all bands multiplied by the sum of multipliers from all bands.

Penalities:

Violation of contest rules, unsportsmanlike conduct or not use the frecuencies will be deemed sufficient cause for disqualification.

Thopies and prizes:

Trophie will be given to the 1st and 2nd in each category (QRP and QRPp). The EA-QRP Club organization will determine the final prize.

Log instructions:

1- All times must be in GMT.

2- All sent and received exchanges are to be logged and the spanish province (Only 59 for foreigners).

3- Callsign of each station and special mention if it is a QRP or QRPp

4- Band of the contact

Homemade equipment users may have problems to determinate the exact frecuency, but try to respect the frecuencies of the Contest.

All logs must contain a declaration that the contest rules have been respected and the final score you claim and the following information :

- Name and callsign
- RX, TX or RTX
- Antenna/s

Output power

Mailing deadline for log entries is November 30, 2003.

Computer logs are welcome in ASCII or Cabrillo format.

Mailing address for the logs:

EA-QRP club,
Po Box 73, 46182, La Ca ada (Valencia)

Emails log to:

ea5chq@wanadoo.es

_____
Yahoo! Messenger - Nueva versi n GRATIS
Super Webcam, voz, caritas animadas, y m s...
http://messenger.yahoo.es

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 10:3:18 -0600
From: "Doc K0EVZ" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
To: "qrp-l reflector" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "doc k0evz earthlink" <dock0evz@earthlink.net>
Subject: [160205] FOX season begins tonite!
Message-ID: <4120031022816318343@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Gang:

Tonite is the night--the Winter FOX season officially gets underway. We have two excellent QRPers who will serve as our FOXes. Should be a fun evening. Who will bag the first pelt of the new season?

Details are found at www.cqc.org.fox .

Here's hoping conditions will be great! GL, one and all.

73,
--Doc/K0EVZ for the FOX committee Tom N1TP Marshall N1FN Bruce VE5RC Lloyd K3ESE and Chuck K7QO

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 10:15:40 -0600
From: Ron Evans <cosmos41@ix.netcom.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [160206] 15 Meters Open
Message-ID: <3F9E962C.6040605@ix.netcom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

1609 UTC

QSB but some nice DX

72,

Ron

********** Ron Evans **********
KD5S (ex K5MVR) - Loving the "glow" since 1957
Fort Worth, TX "Where the West Begins"
mailto: cosmos41@ix.netcom.com
http://www.geocities.com/sweetvengeance
Adventure Radio Society (ARS) - #1595
http://www.arsqrp.com
****

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:18:56 -0700 (MST)
From: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
To: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [160207] Re: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.44.0310280915390.4680-100000@bucket.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 28 Oct 2003, John Sielke wrote:

> I see there was a Solar Flare this morning that went right off the scale (over
> X20). They are calling it a Megaflare on the Space Weather site.

Actually it is X17.2 which is very large indeed. Tomorrow radio condtions will be very poor to non-existant. A massive CME event is also headed our way. Check out 6 meters if your into that. Look North next evening and see the show.

>
> I know Paul is probably busy, but if he has time, maybe he could tell us how
> this could affect us, not just Ham Radio-wise? I have never noted one this
> big.
>
> In the meantime, adding an extra layer to my aluminum foil hat.
>
> John W2AGN
>

--

- Karl Larsen k5di Las Cruces,NM Az ScQRPions -

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:37:28 -0700
From: "Ronnie Zoerb" <r.zoerb@worldnet.att.net>
To: "QRP-L Post messages" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160208] QRP-L Fox: Need Help!
Message-ID: <000f01c39d71$c792d560$5d18560c@sony>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The "Underdog" Fox hunting team has openings for 2 new members. Anyone interested in joining, please send me an e-mail at 'KI0II@arrl.net'.

The first hunt of the season is tonight so be ready and have fun!

72 Ron   KI0II

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 11:37:42 EST
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160209] Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <14.1b3e4026.2ccff556@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have had marginal success with the use of a 100/140 watt Weller gun for soldering of coax fittings. I noted that Weller has a 200/260 and 200/300 watt models. I was wondering if these higher wattage guns make the job not only easier but also better quality fitting connections

Here are some of the Weller guns I am talking about.
www.jensentools.com/product/group.asp?parent_id=8255

I have read about passing current thru the fittings to heat it up as well as using a torch to preheat the fitting but the gun may be a bit more fool proof.

Looking forward to recommendation from those that have mastered this art.

(I have a project coming up to solder about 20 jumpers and want to do it right the first time)

Alan KB7MBI in Woodinville, WA
FISTS 5702 / ARS / Proud member of ARRL
___ ___ . . .   . . . ___ ___   DIT DIT

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 10:58:15 -0600
From: "Boulineau, Lee" <lee.boulineau@attws.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160210] RE: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <3CD5FC1B2837DC46BC77FDDF187C26E3149D74@tx-msg07-ccc.wireless.attws.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
content-class: urn:content-classes:message

Gents,

please remove the collanders from your domes also!

Lee N4MVL

-----Original Message-----
From: Lee Mairs [mailto:lmairs@direcway.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 10:17 AM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Mega Flare

Having graduated from the University of New Mexico (somewhat close to = Paul's
stomping grounds) in the past century, let me hasten to tell everybody = the
thing to do now given the Mega Flare detritus is heading our way.

The first thing is take off the aluminum tops of all your qrp rigs and = line
them up out side in a North-South configuration. When the coronal = energy
arrives on the 29th or 30th, it will restore the mojo that has been
gradually leaking out of our homebrew radios.

John may wish to remove the tin foil from his hat on arrival day in = order to
restore some of the mojo that has been leaking out of his brain!

73 de Lee
KM4YY/8

BTW, you cannot restore mojo to QRO rigs in this manner. QRO rigs = require
submersion in green pond water for three days...

----- Original Message -----=20
From: "John Sielke" <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 8:32 AM
Subject: Mega Flare

> I see there was a Solar Flare this morning that went right off the = scale
(over
> X20). They are calling it a Megaflare on the Space Weather site.

>
> I know Paul is probably busy, but if he has time, maybe he could tell =
us
how
> this could affect us, not just Ham Radio-wise? I have never noted one =
this
> big.
>
> In the meantime, adding an extra layer to my aluminum foil hat.
>
> John W2AGN
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 12:00:12 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160211] Re: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <200310281200.13089.jsielke@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

On Tuesday 28 October 2003 11:18, Karl Larsen wrote:
> On Tue, 28 Oct 2003, John Sielke wrote:
> > I see there was a Solar Flare this morning that went right off the scale
> > (over X20). They are calling it a Megaflare on the Space Weather site.
>
>   Actually it is X17.2 which is very large indeed. Tomorrow radio
> condtions will be very poor to non-existant. A massive CME event is also
> headed our way. Check out 6 meters if your into that. Look North next
> evening and see the show.

Well, I am relieved it is only a 17.2. I appreciate the information, as I never would have guessed that it might mess up radio conditions. I will definitely look North tomorrow evening for those nasty CMEs. I was hoping to get a response from Paul, but I guess any PHd will do.

Thanks again,

John W2AGN

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 11:22:10 -0600
From: "Tim, N9PUZ" <n9puz@arrl.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160212] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <20031028112210.476612@EOS>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

On Tue, 28 Oct 2003 11:37:42 -0500 (EST), ARDUJENSKI@aol.com wrote:
>=A0I have had marginal success with the use of a 100/140 watt Weller
>=A0gun for soldering of coax fittings. I noted that Weller has a
>=A0200/260 and 200/300 watt models. I was wondering if these higher
>=A0wattage guns make the job not only easier but also better quality
>=A0fitting connections

My experience is that the gun style (any wattage) does not have enough mass=
 at the tip where the heat is concentrated to stay at temperature when=
 soldering a larger piece of metal like a coax connector. I don't recall who=
 suggested it but I bought a Weller 80 Watt iron that's generally used for=
 stained glass work and have been pretty happy with the results. This iron=
 has a large tip that retains the heat better than the gun style tools.

I believe the model number was a WP-80 and I found it at one of the usual=
 home centers like Lowe's or Home Depot.

Tim, N9PUZ

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:22:58 -0800
From: "laura halliday" <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160213] Re: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <BAY9-F57PfTjoDPzQt70006cd75@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

The views of the sun are very interesting at the moment
too. If you're not equipped to look yourself (do it right,
please!), here's a sample image:

http://www.perseus.gr/Astro-Solar-Sunspots-2003-10-27.htm

When I last looked at the sun Sunday afternoon (about

2200Z; 125 mm Synta acromat refractor with a full-aperture
mylar filter) AR10485 was separate sunspots which hadn't
yet coalesced in to a ring.

Laura Halliday VE7LDH   "Que les nuages soient notre
Grid: CN89mg   pied a terre..."
ICBM: 49 16.05 N 122 56.92 W   - Hospital/Shafte

____
The new MSN 8: advanced junk mail protection and 2 months FREE*
http://join.msn.com/?page=features/junkmail

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 12:32:53 -0500
From: John Sielke <jsielke@pobox.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160214] Re: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <200310281232.55457.jsielke@pobox.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

>John may wish to remove the tin foil from his hat on arrival day in order to
>restore some of the mojo that has been leaking out of his brain!
>
>73 de Lee

I will take your suggestion and plan on sitting outside and soaking up the
mojo! Unfortunately, unlike some, it has to filter through my hair.... ;-)

John W2AGN

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:37:13 -0800 (PST)
From: Garie Halstead K8KFJ <khyberpass65@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160215] Re: Mega Flare
Message-ID: <20031028173713.5414.qmail@web60303.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

--- Karl Larsen <k5di@zianet.com> wrote:

> Actually it is X17.2 which is very large indeed. Tomorrow radio
> condtions will be very poor to non-existant. A massive CME event is
> also
> headed our way. Check out 6 meters if your into that.

Aurora signals are neat sounding (my opinion) and fun to work on 6m
when when the HF bands are gone. Since the signals have no note, you
recieve RSTs such as 56A. Take Karl's suggestion and check out 50MHz
for those who have the capability (and point those yagis north).

72, Gary -K8KFJ-
EM98 in WV

_____
Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! SiteBuilder - Free, easy-to-use web site design software
http://sitebuilder.yahoo.com

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:31:15 -0800
From: Adam Farson <farson@shaw.ca>
To: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@LEHIGH.EDU>
Subject: [160216] RE: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <BLEKJMCJBOEAAIECDNNCMEOCHFAA.farson@shaw.ca>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

Hi Alan,

I always use a Weller 200/300W soldering-gun for soldering PL-259's. The
100/140W model does not have sufficient heat output to flow the solder
properly inside the connector shell, especially when using smaller cables
(such as RG-8/X, RG-142/U or RG-400/U) with a reducer.

Best 73,
Adam, VA7OJ/AB4OJ
North Vancouver, BC, Canada
http://www.qsl.net/ab4oj/

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of
ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 08:38

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Soldering Coax fittings question

I have had marginal success with the use of a 100/140 watt Weller gun for soldering of coax fittings. I noted that Weller has a 200/260 and 200/300 watt
models. I was wondering if these higher wattage guns make the job not only easier but also better quality fitting connections

Here are some of the Weller guns I am talking about.
www.jensentools.com/product/group.asp?parent_id=8255

I have read about passing current thru the fittings to heat it up as well as using a torch to preheat the fitting but the gun may be a bit more fool proof.

Looking forward to recommendation from those that have mastered this art.

(I have a project coming up to solder about 20 jumpers and want to do it right the first time)

Alan KB7MBI in Woodinville, WA
FISTS 5702 / ARS / Proud member of ARRL
___ ___ . . . . . . ___ ___ DIT DIT

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 13:03:00 -0500 (Eastern Standard Time)
From: "Mike WA8BXN" <hubby2k@hotmail.com>
To: <ARDUJENSKI@aol.com>, <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160217] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <3F9EAF54.00000C.00256@etower>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: Text/Plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

You might want to consider an iron rather than a gun. I have an 80 watt Weller iron with a massive tip that builds up lots of heat to transfer to what I am soldering. The problem with guns is they don't have much mass i=
n
the tip and if you press too hard to get good heat transfer you can bend =
the
tip. Just my 2 cents worth, will be looking to see what others say. =0D
=0D
73/72 - Mike WA8BXN

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 10:26:21 -0800 (PST)
From: Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160218] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <20031028182621.34792.qmail@web80604.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Hi Alan,

I have used the larger gun and found I have problems
melting the insulator in the connector. You have to
be careful not to apply to much heat.
You may have a build up in the connection of the gun
to the element. Loosen the two screws or in older
guns the hex nuts. Remove the element and clean the
connections. Replace the element and make sure the
screws or nuts are tight. That should take care of
the problem.

72
Bob
KB2FEL/8

--- ARDUJENSKI@aol.com wrote:
> I have had marginal success with the use of a
> 100/140 watt Weller gun for
> soldering of coax fittings. I noted that Weller has
> a 200/260 and 200/300 watt
> models. I was wondering if these higher wattage guns
> make the job not only
> easier but also better quality fitting connections
>
> Here are some of the Weller guns I am talking about.
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>
> I have read about passing current thru the fittings
> to heat it up as well as
> using a torch to preheat the fitting but the gun may
> be a bit more fool proof.
>
> Looking forward to recommendation from those that
> have mastered this art.
>
> (I have a project coming up to solder about 20
> jumpers and want to do it

> right the first time)
>
> Alan KB7MBI in Woodinville, WA
> FISTS 5702 / ARS / Proud member of ARRL
> ___ ___ . . . . . . ___ ___ DIT DIT

_____
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http://launch.yahoo.com/promos/britneyspears/

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 11:01:36 -0800 (PST)
From: Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160219] Re: Mega Flare Mojo
Message-ID: <20031028190136.41525.qmail@web80603.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

--- Lee Mairs <lmairs@direcway.com> wrote:

> John may wish to remove the tin foil from his hat on
> arrival day in order to
> restore some of the mojo that has been leaking out
> of his brain!
>
> 73 de Lee
> KM4YY/8

I will be removing my tin foil hat to gain mojo.
As I am sitting on my porch I thought I could load the
tin foil up on 10 meters. Would you recommend feeding
it with 300 ohm twin lead or coax.

Those who need mojo would like to know!!
Hi Hi

72
Bob
KB2FEL/8

Almost Heaven, West Virginia.. even with the tin foil

_____

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Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 12:05:45 -0700
From: "Larry Roohr" <larry.roohr@comcast.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160220] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <001901c39d86$7ebd0080$6800a8c0@peanut>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The best solution for me has been the butane soldering irons that radio shack carry's, they are adjustable, get unbelievably hot and use the same fuel as my cigar lighter. Also since they dont need a power cord they work great out in the yard and in the field.

Larry KZ0E

----- Original Message -----
From: <ARDUJENSKI@aol.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 9:37 AM
Subject: Soldering Coax fittings question

> I have had marginal success with the use of a 100/140 watt Weller gun for
> soldering of coax fittings. I noted that Weller has a 200/260 and 200/300 watt
> models. I was wondering if these higher wattage guns make the job not only
> easier but also better quality fitting connections
>
> Here are some of the Weller guns I am talking about.
> www.jensentools.com/product/group.asp?parent_id=8255
>
> I have read about passing current thru the fittings to heat it up as well as
> using a torch to preheat the fitting but the gun may be a bit more fool proof.
>
> Looking forward to recommendation from those that have mastered this art.
>
> (I have a project coming up to solder about 20 jumpers and want to do it

> right the first time)
>
> Alan KB7MBI in Woodinville, WA
> FISTS 5702 / ARS / Proud member of ARRL
> ___ ___ . . . . . . ___ ___ DIT DIT

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 14:02:27 -0500
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <farson@shaw.ca>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160221] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <006c01c39d86$12e853a0$0200a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> Hi Alan,
>
> I always use a Weller 200/300W soldering-gun for soldering PL-259's. The
> 100/140W model does not have sufficient heat output to flow the solder
> properly inside the connector shell, especially when using smaller
cables
> (such as RG-8/X, RG-142/U or RG-400/U) with a reducer.

People sometimes don't seem to realize you need a LOT of heat
QUICKLY to correctly do a PL-259 or other 'heat-sink' type of connector.

Applying xxx BTUs of heat in 1 second will get the end of the connector
hot, and leave the barrel cool.

Applying the same amount of BTUs with a smaller wattage iron over a
longer time period does NOT get the end of the connector as hot as
fast, and the heat energy has had time to propagate down the cable
and connector body. Eventually it might get 'as hot', but by then
everything else is also cooking.

The result of too small a 'thermal shock' is cable with soft dielectric
that
allows the conductors to 'migrate' or even connectors that the insulator
has softened and the pin now 'travels' out of position. Both very bad
to making a high quality connector.

Or worse, solder that has melted but has NOT flowed to 'wet' the

contact to form the joint alloy that is desired.

The Weller guns are good in that while they don't have a lot of 'thermal inertia' due to the small tip volume, they DO have the energy reserves to still be able to deliver that thermal 'shock front' to heat what you need heated up fast. The higher the wattage, GENERALLY the better. But then, there's always SOMEONE that can screw it up! And I don't mean to point fingers. It's a skill that has to be learned by doing!

The 80W irons for glass work also can work, as the tips on those things can have a ton (ok, ounces?) of mass that can hold BTUs and deliver them en masse as a shock, only because the tip is so massive compared to what it touches.

ALL of these scenarios are further degraded by any tips that have corrosion
or other impediments to good thermal transfer.

KEEP YOUR TIPS CLEANED AND PROPERLY TINNED!!!

Mike

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 12:15:57 -0700
From: "Damon S Raphael MD \(W7MD\)" <w7md@gci-net.com>
To: <sjolin@swbell.net>,
        "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160222] Re: X14 superflare
Message-ID: <002701c39d87$eac10550$6401a8c0@virgo>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Here come the protons from our Star.
http://solar.sec.noaa.gov/rt_plots/pro_3d.html
Damon, W7MD

----- Original Message -----
From: "sjolin" <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2003 6:55 AM
Subject: X14 superflare

> SEVERE SOLAR ACTIVITY: One of the most powerful solar flares in years, a

> remarkable X14-category explosion, erupted from sunspot 486 this morning
at
> approximately 1110 UT. An intensifying S2-class solar radiation storm is
in
> progress. The explosion almost certainly hurled a coronal mass ejection
> toward Earth, which could trigger bright auroras when it arrives on Oct
29th
> or 30th. Stay tuned for details.
>
>
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 11:52:22 -0800 (PST)
From: Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
Subject: [160223] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <20031028195222.84382.qmail@web80604.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Alan,

I did fail to mention. If you are working outdoors
the larger gun is the trick. The heat loss outdoors
especially in cool weather will give you problems in
heat transfer.

72
Bob
KB2FEL/8

_____
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Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 14:38:06 -0500 (EST)
From: <ah7i@atl.org>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [160224] Some swapzies, 30m A&A QRP transceiver and Atlas 210
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0310281431460.11935-100000@localhost.localdomain>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Have:

A&A 30m CW transceiver. A/K/A/ K9AY. See early 90's QST articles.
About 5W out, superhet, xtal filter.

Atlas 210. Inop. Bought as project but will never get to it.
All there except for bottom cover. Cosmetically tolerable.
No rust, no smoke residue, but some scratches and such.

Want to swap for Butternut HF-2V vertical antenna with either
30m kit or 160m kit.

OR

$100 for A&A + ship
$50 for Atlas + ship
take both, I'll pay ship in 48 contiguous states
or haul to the Stone Mountain/Lawrenceville GA hamfest this
weekend....

Atlas is good for repair or a great parts source if you're
thinking of homebrew or modular reconstruction...

-Bob
ah7i/w4

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 12:26:23 -0800 (PST)
From: Bob KB2FEL <kb2fel@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: myetsko@insydesw.com
Subject: [160225] Re: Soldering Coax fittings question
Message-ID: <20031028202623.80872.qmail@web80602.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

--- Mike Yetsko <myetsko@insydesw.com> wrote:
<SNIP>
> But
> then, there's always SOMEONE that can screw it up!

> And I don't
> mean to point fingers. It's a skill that has to be
> learned by doing!
<SNIP>
> KEEP YOUR TIPS CLEANED AND PROPERLY TINNED!!!
>
> Mike
>
Hi Mike,

As I am a person who usually screws it up Hi Hi, you
give a Very good explanation.
One thing many forget is, not only is the gun or iron
important but the solder as well. There are Different
cores and tin content. Each act a bit different with
each application.
Personally I always use Kester.

I remember the hard time I had when they got rid of
60/40. I had to learn how to solder all over again,
when they took the lead out.

72
Bob
KB2FEL/8

"Warming the iron so I can solder the feedline to my
tin hat"

____
Do you Yahoo!?
Exclusive Video Premiere - Britney Spears
http://launch.yahoo.com/promos/britneyspears/

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 16:16:40 -0500
From: "NZ8J" <nz8j@woh.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160226] **SOLD** LDG Z-11 Autotuner **SOLD**
Message-ID: <00ce01c39d98$c7a3b390$6400a8c0@NZ8J>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks to those who responded, the Z-11 tuner has been sold

73
Tim
Nz8J
----- Original Message -----
From: "NZ8J" <nz8j@woh.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Sunday, October 26, 2003 2:12 AM
Subject: FS: LDG Z-11 Autotuner

> FS: Exc condition LDG Z-11 autotuner $125 Shipped in the lower 48
> Thanks
> Tim
> NZ8J
>
>
>

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 14:11:04 -0800
From: "Lee Hopper" <leehopp@msn.com>
To: "Posting to the list QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160227] Solar Flare
Message-ID: <BAY4-DAV158MIQMaYIT00014589@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gents -

See <http://www.dxlc.com/solar/> for a picture - you have to scroll down 3-4 screens to see it. Very impressive photo - looks like something out of Star Wars.

73 -

Lee Hopper, NB7F
Portland, OR

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 15:23:59 -0700 (MST)
From: Paul Harden <pharden@revere.aoc.nrao.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Cc: "Prof. Arnaldo Coro Antich" <inforhc@ip.etecsa.cu>,
        gqrp@yahoogroups.com, slqs@mailman.qth.net
Subject: [160228] X17 Flare: Info & tutorial
Message-ID: <Pine.SOL.3.91.1031028140157.24621C-100000@paso>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Gang,
It has been a busy day at work due to the flare, and the fact that we are getting "first light" today on the first new EVLA antenna. Plus, they renamed the server again, which means my first post was bounced as qrp-l didn't recongize the new address as a subscriber. Had to resubscribe :-(

UPDATE SINCE I WROTE THIS:
We are currently observing the sun at the VLA with a couple of antennas. Constant observing right now at Big Bear Solar Telescope and others do not YET show a -Bz associated with this shockwave. If the shockwave remains +Bz, the effects of the geomagnetic storm will be minimized. If it causes a -Bz, it *will* be severe. Regardless if + or -, auroras are ensured. Latest estimate of shockwave arrival: about midnight CDT-MDT *TONIGHT* (~0700 UTC). Latest estimate is now ~2000 km/sec. shockwave.

72, Paul NA5N

The second largest flare this solar cycle occured about 6am EDT this morning, rated an X17. By all definitions, this is a VERY MAJOR FLARE. So large, it hurled radio waves, X-rays, and even protons at us at the speed of light. The electrons and protons are still arriving. This has triggered HF blackouts and a Polar Cap Absorption Event in the polar regions. When the flare occured, the VLA was observing a source about 40 degrees from the sun at L-band (1-2 GHz). The flare drove the L-band receivers into full saturation just from the power picked up in our sidelobes. That's a biggie.

The good news is the recent solar activity over the past week has raised the solar flux from an average around 115 to well over 200 at the present. The higher the solar flux, the higher the ionization to our E and F layers, and thus the higher the MUF and reflection. This means daytime openings on 15M and 10M, extending to 6M on occassions. If you have a chance to get home from work and on the air before or around sundown, check out the higher bands for DX openings.

THE CME/SHOCKWAVE.

The biggest effect we will experience from this X17 flare is from the arrival of the shockwave. This X17 flare was nearly at the center of the sun, meaning the escaping shock wave traveling outward from the flare area will hit the earth nearly head on. Most of the geomagnetic storms we experience from flares are actually the result of a glancing blow, not direct. So one can imagine the effect of a shock wave hitting us direct on, and one from a flare of this magnitude. THERE IS NO HISTORY of a shock wave this powerful hitting the Earth in modern times. This is why some of the predictions issued today are so varied. Nobody knows what will happen.

The escape velocity of the sun is about 350 km/sec., which is why the minimum solar wind is 350 km/sec. Right now, solar wind is around 500 km/sec. (not from the X17, but from events on the sun 2-3 days ago). A large, direct shockwave is considered around 1000 km/sec. This can trigger major to severe geomagnetic storming.

This morning, NOAA estimated the shock velocity at 1250 km/sec, meaning the shockwave should arrive early Thursday morning.

Since then, SEC/NOAA has revised it's estimate, after correcting for saturated instruments, to about 2200 km/sec. with an arrival time possibly around midnight tonight CDT-MDT. If true, this would be perfect geometry and timing for us in North America for auroral displays. You want the shockwave to hit when we are facing AWAY from the sun (like around local midnight), so the shockwave blows the energetic protons over the poles to the dark side of earth towards the equator. In other words, right over your head.

To monitor when the shockwave hits, I suggest:
http://umtof.umd.edu/pm

This is the proton monitor which is reading quite accurately. The other numbers you are seeing on various websites right now are mostly erroneous, as the sensors on these satellites are being contaminated by the energetic electron/proton event in progress. This site is a true proton density monitor for accurately measuring the solar wind, particle density and polarity (direction) of the magnetic field.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN?
Nobody knows. Again, this is the largest shockwave to hit planet Earth in the modern, instrumented times. It depends on three factors:

1) the strength of the solar wind. The higher (km/sec), the faster it gets here and the harder it will squish our magnetic field.
2) Particle density (p/cm^3). The higher the density, the more energy the shockwave will have, and the more particles infused into our ionosphere for fueling auroral displays. Higher density will also squish our magnetic field and make it wiggle for hours.
3) Magnetic direction of the shockwave. It is either positive (+Bz) or

northpointing, or negative (-Bz) southpointing. If +Bz, the effects of the geomagnetic storm will be minimal. If -Bz when it hits, it will cause a MAJOR to SEVERE geomagnetic storm.

These are things you can monitor yourself on the various websites, such as that listed above, http://www.sec.noaa.gov/today.html or http://www.spaceweather.com

IF THE SHOCKWAVE is indeed 2200 km/sec. and arrives this evening, we will be assured of some glorious auroral displays. Those of you in Canada and the northern tier of states will be treated to a show. I am quite hopeful, if the timing is correct, of seeing aurora here in NM. It is not known how far south such a display may be seen. It might even be worth it for Arnie Coro, CO2KK to keep his eyes open. Aurora over Havana could happen again. I hope so. Again, there is no experience of what a 2000 km/sec. shockwave can do.

If it hits during dark hours in Europe, auroras could be seen far to the south as well.

I have asked our own staff astronomers and chief solar scientists. They all shrug their shoulders. They do not know what to expect. These are PhD's.

WORST CASE SCENARIO.
If we got a major whack from this shockwave triggering a SEVERE geomagnetic storm, it could cause problems to our infrastructure and way of life for a while.

With severe storming, our magnetic field is wiggling and moving severely. A piece of metal exposed to a moving magnetic field generates electrical current ... hence, a generator or the dynamo effect. With a highly moving magnetic field around power lines, the power lines can generate and induce huge voltages, just from the magnetic field moving. This causes equipment along the lines to open up to protect the large voltages from getting to the transformers, just like the momentary opening of a power line when lightning strikes it. Your power glitches for a second or so. This is like a continuous strike of lightning that keeps the line protected, and breakers open, continuously. I.e., no power getting to you. This in turn causes the generators to trip off line, as with no load on the generators, the voltages spike upward, and protective equipment will shut down the generators. This, of course, is a full-blown power blackout or power grid failure. It could last for the duration of the magnetic storm and the time to get the grid back up and running. From hours to a day in duration.

This is exactly what happened in 1989 in the Quebec blackout, induced by a severe geomagnetic storm.

The incoming stream of electrons and particles also cause a voltage

to develop on the surfaces of satellites. If extreme enough, the voltage differential between the sun facing side and dark side can cause destruction to electronic components within the satellite. Some satellite operators will place their birds into a protective shutdown mode while this is occuring. If this satellite is what your ATM or credit card transaction goes through for approval, you're out of luck for awhile. If the satellite is fried, even longer!

I really don't know what to expect tonight from this X17 shockwave. I wouldn't expect the worst, but I'd be prepared for it in the event it progresses badly. At least have a few flashlights ready, pickup a little cash from your ATM and fill your car with gas while you know you can. It would be doubtful such effects would last over 24 hours. So for general creature comforts, have some light, drink, food, heat and companionship to survive 24 hours. Perhaps avoid elevators around midnight :-)

Sit back and enjoy the show. It could be a dud ... probably many of you will at least experience some nice northern lights, or it could be something that will make the news tomorrow. So why miss it?

This *is* the largest flare producing a direct hit on the Earth in most of our lifetimes. Might as well observe it and see what happens.

72, Paul NA5N

PS - I should probably add that these are my thoughts and observations and do not neccessarily represent those of the observatory. They're all standing around shrugging their shoulders right now as well!

National Radio Astronomy Observatory
Very Large Array (VLA) Radio Telescope
Socorro, New Mexico

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 16:41:59 -0600
From: "rattray" <rattray@accesscomm.ca>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [160229] QRP does it again!
Message-ID: <000a01c39da4$b7311370$7900a8c0@Bonnie>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
        charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

QRP does it again!.....congratulations to the Durham Region QRP Club!

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
            A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - QRP Borg#1 - Whiner#10 -
            - VE5QRP SOC#11 - VE5RC SOC#12 - oo#148 - K2#2032 - COG#15 -
          "QRP! How sweet it is!"   "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

---------- Forwarded message ----------
Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 09:40:52 -0500
From: Bob Scott <bobscott@sympatico.ca>
To: rattray@gpfn.sk.ca
Subject: Field Day 2003

Hi Bruce....I'm happy to report that The Durham Region QRP Club, is
again
#1 in Canada for Field Day...with 7470 points. Regina did very well for
second place with 5570 points. Bob VE3GND/GM4CPR.

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 17:42:48 -0500
From: Garey Barrell <k4oah@mindspring.com>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [160230] FYI Re the 14.025 Signal
Message-ID: <3F9EF0E8.8080905@mindspring.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The 14.025 "ditter" was tracked down to a station in
Kemah, TX by OO Wayne Wright, WB5WMF. Usual book
sitting on keyboard type event.

73, Garey - K4OAH
Atlanta

Date: Tue, 28 Oct 2003 17:21:38 -0500
From: Peter Burbank <peterlee@qx.net>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [160231] Coax Fittings
Message-ID: <5.2.0.9.0.20031028161335.00a13560@mail.qx.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

For PL-259s, the tricky operation is soldering the shield through the holes. I usually clean all
the surfaces and use an iron or gun that has a narrow tip that does not touch the threads
for the coupler barrel. Cleaning solder out of those threads is not much fun.
I then use a wooden (sharpened) Q-tip handle to place a tiny drop of a liquid flux in the shield hole.
The flux allows rapid solder adhesion and subsequent heat transfer without melting the internal
insulation as has been pointed out by others. I do one hole at a time and try to work rapidly.
For heat, it takes the big Weller gun (about 200 watts) or the Weller SP-80L iron works fine.
The SP-80 tip is 3/8 inch in diameter and held in by a set screw. A chunk of 3/8" copper rod
can be obtained from Small Parts and filed to a shape that fits well between the barrel threads
and the tip end of the PL-259.
Some will disagree about the use of a flux but I have used Supersafe 30 for many years (except
on CMOS) and a water rinse cleans the residual flux. Paste flux is a no no.
Also a torch in my experience usually makes a mess
Before installing outdoors a coat of silicone grease is a good idea.
I'm sure others have differing opinions about this so any other tips are welcome.
73 to all
Pete NV4V....usual disclaimer

End of QRP-L Digest 3087
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